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Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 WELLIN 03992 060549Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PA-02 INR-07 AF-10 INRE-00 SSO-00
EUR-12 /044 W
----------109551 060550Z /14
O 060507Z SEP 77
FM AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
TO USINFO WASHDC IMMEDIATE
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 3959

UNCLAS WELLINGTON 03992

FOR IBS, IPS, IOR

EO 11652: N/A
SUBJECT: RHODESIA MEDIA REACTION

1. UNDER THE HEADING, "THE ONLY PATH FOR SMITH," WELLINGTON'S MORNING NEWSPAPER, THE "DOMINION: (72,500) SEPTEMBER 5, COMMENTED EDITORIALLY:

2. "IAN SMITH HAS THE CHANCE NOW TO SHOW HE IS OF THE STUFF THAT STATESMEN ARE MADE. IF HE REJECTS THE ANGLO-AMERICA PROPOSALS HE WILL CONFIRM WHAT MANY OF HIS OPPONENTS ALLEGE, THAT HE HAS A SIMILAR RECKLESS DISREGARD FOR POLITICAL REALITY THAT THE FOUNDER OF RHODESIA SHOWED IN HIS HEYDAY.

3. "MR SMITH IS FACED WITH THE ALTERNATIVE THAT THIS REVOLUTION CAN BE ACHIEVED PEACEFULLY IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE OWEN-YOUNG PLAN, OR FORCIBLY.

4. "MR SMITH CAN POINT TO UGANDA, AND HAS DONE SO, TO INDICATE WHAT HAPPENS WHEN BLACK MAJORITY RULE IS ENFORCED. BUT THE ANALOGY IS UNSOUND. UGANDA IS NOT TYPICAL. A BETTER EXAMPLE FOR MR SMITH MUST BE KENYA.

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5. ...THE ANGLO-AMERICAN PROPOSALS ALLOW MR SMITH TO INSTITUTE WHAT COULD AMOUNT TO A KENYA-TYPE SITUATION. THE PROPOSALS ARE DETAILED AND VIABLE. THERE ARE OBVIOUS STUMBLING BLOCKS OVER THE ARMED FORCES. MR SMITH WILL TRY TO GET AROUND THE ONE-MAN-ONE-VOTE PRINCIPLE BUT THIS IS AN ESSENTIAL PART OF THE PACKAGE.

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6. "MR SMITH HAS PLAYED A LOSING HAND FOR MORE THAN A DECADE NOW WITH A GREAT DEAL OF CUNNING. HE HAS NO TRICKS LEFT. EITHER HE ACCEPTS A PROPOSAL THAT IS FEASIBLE OR HE RESISTS AS RHODESIA IS DEMOLISHED ROUND HIM.
7. THE RHODESIAN SITUATION ALSO DREW SIMILAR EDITORIAL COMMENT IN THE WAIKATO TIMES (36,772) THE DAILY TELEGRAPH (18,218), AUCKLAND STAR (130,500), THE EVENING POST (98,688), AND THE OTAGO DAILY TIMES (44,500) ANDERSON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, POLICIES, POLITICAL SETTLEMENT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 06-Sep-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
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From: WELLINGTON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
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Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1372391
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: RHODESIA MEDIA REACTION
TAGS: SOPN, PDEV, PINT, RH
To: USIA
Type: TE
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